

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 6-7, 14-16, 21-22, 33-34, and 40-41. Please amend claims 1-5, 8-13, 17-20, 23-32, and 35-39. Please add new claims 42-43.

1. (Currently Amended) For use in a hand-held computing device, [[A]] a computer-implemented method for providing an alternate symbol associated with a base symbol comprising:

receiving input requesting a first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols associated with a first base symbol; and

displaying simultaneously a plurality of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols [[in]] from the first list associated with the first base symbol in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols of the first list in an order according to a user-defined criteria.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols of the first list in an order according to a criteria of the alternate symbol that was last selected for the base symbol is displayed first.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols in the first list in an order from first to last according to a criteria of descending order of a frequency of selection for each alternate symbol;  
responsive to receiving input indicating one of the alternate symbols has been selected, increasing a frequency of selection indicator for the alternate symbol that has been selected; and storing the frequency of selection indicator in a memory.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols in the first list in an order from first to last according to a criteria of descending order of a frequency of selection for each alternate symbol, the frequency of selection being based on pre-determined statistics.

6. (Canceled.)

7. (Canceled.)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols includes a short symbol sequence.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols includes an accented symbol version of the base symbol.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols includes a symbol of the same type as the base symbol.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols includes a symbol having an associational relationship with the base symbol wherein the associational relationship is that the symbol includes the base symbol.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  - receiving input requesting a second list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols associated with a second base symbol; and
  - ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the second list associated with the second base symbol.~~
  - displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the second list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device.
13. (Currently Amended) A hand-held computing device for providing an alternate symbol associated with a base symbol comprising:
  - a display;
  - a memory;
  - a processor coupled to the display and memory;
  - a user input device for indicating a symbol; and

software stored in the memory for providing an alternate symbol associated with a base symbol  
wherein the software comprises instructions for execution by the processor for performing the  
following:

receiving input requesting a first list of alternate symbols associated with a first base  
symbol; and

displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up  
menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-  
held device.

14. (Canceled.)

15. (Canceled.)

16. (Canceled.)

17. (Currently Amended) The device of claim [[16]] 13 wherein ~~displaying one or more~~  
~~alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more~~  
~~than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the  
first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a  
display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols of the first list in an order according to a  
user-defined criteria.

18. (Currently Amended) The device of claim [[16]] 13 wherein ~~displaying one or more~~  
~~alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more~~  
~~than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the  
first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a  
display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols of the first list in an order according to a criteria of the alternate symbol that was last selected for the base symbol is displayed first.

19. (Currently Amended) The device of claim [[16]] 13 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols in the first list in an order from first to last according to a criteria of descending order of a frequency of selection for each alternate symbol; responsive to receiving input indicating one of the alternate symbols has been selected, increasing a frequency of selection indicator for the alternate symbol that has been selected; and storing the frequency of selection indicator in a memory.

20. (Currently Amended) The device of claim [[16]] 13 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols in the first list in an order from first to last according to a criteria of descending order of a frequency of selection for each alternate symbol, the frequency of selection being based on pre-determined statistics.

21. (Canceled.)

22. (Canceled.)

23. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[16]]~~ 13 wherein the first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols includes a short symbol sequence as one of the one or more alternate symbols.

24. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[16]]~~ 13 wherein the first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols includes an accented symbol version of the base symbol as one of the one or more alternate symbols.

25. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[16]]~~ 13 wherein the first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols includes a symbol of the same type as the base symbol.

26. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[16]]~~ 13 wherein the first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols includes a symbol having an associational relationship with the base symbol wherein the associational relationship is that the symbol includes the base symbol.

27. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[16]]~~ 13 wherein the software further comprises instructions for execution by the processor for performing the following:

receiving input requesting a second list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols associated with a second base symbol; and

~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the second list associated with the second base symbol.~~

displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the second list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer usable medium comprising instructions for execution by a processor for performing ~~the following~~ a computer-implemented method for providing an alternate symbol associated with a base symbol for use in a hand-held computing device, the method comprising:

receiving input requesting a first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols associated with a first base symbol; and

displaying simultaneously a plurality of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols ~~[[in]] from the first list associated with the first base symbol in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device.~~

29. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 28 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols of the first list in an order according to a user-defined criteria.

30. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 28 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols of the first list in an order according to a criteria of the alternate symbol that was last selected for the base symbol is displayed first.

31. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 28 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in

a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols in the first list in an order from first to last according to a criteria of descending order of a frequency of selection for each alternate symbol; responsive to receiving input indicating one of the alternate symbol has been selected, increasing a frequency of selection indicator for the alternate symbol that has been selected; and storing the frequency of selection indicator in a memory.

32. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 28 wherein ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

displaying the plurality of alternate symbols in the first list in an order from first to last according to a criteria of descending order of a frequency of selection for each alternate symbol, the frequency of selection being based on pre-determined statistics.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Canceled.)

35. (Currently Amended) A hand-held computing device for providing an alternate symbol associated with a base symbol comprising:

means for receiving input requesting a first list of ~~one or more~~ alternate symbols associated with a first base symbol; and



means for displaying simultaneously a plurality of one or more alternate symbols ~~[[in]]~~  
from the first list associated with the first base symbol in a pop-up menu at an insertion location  
for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device.

36. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 35 wherein the means for ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

means for displaying the plurality of alternate symbols of the first list in an order according to a user-defined criteria.

37. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 35 wherein the means for ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

means for displaying the plurality of alternate symbols of the first list in an order according to a criteria of the alternate symbol that was last selected for the base symbol is displayed first.

38. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 35 wherein the means for ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

means for displaying the plurality of alternate symbols in the first list in an order from first to last according to a criteria of descending order of a frequency of selection for each alternate symbol;

means for increasing a frequency of selection indicator for the alternate symbol that has been selected responsive to receiving input indicating one of the alternate symbols has been selected; and

means for storing the frequency of selection indicator in a memory.

39. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 35 wherein the means for ~~displaying one or more alternate symbols in the first list associated with the first base symbol, the first list having more than one alternate symbol,~~ displaying simultaneously a plurality of alternate symbols from the first list in a pop-up menu at an insertion location for at least one of the alternate symbols on a display of the hand-held device comprises:

means for displaying the plurality of alternate symbols in the first list in an order from first to last according to a criteria of descending order of a frequency of selection for each alternate symbol, the frequency of selection being based on pre-determined statistics.

40. (Canceled.)

41. (Canceled.)

42. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the first list of alternate symbols includes an emoticon.

43. (New) The device of claim 13 wherein the first list of alternate symbols includes an emoticon.